ITHACA, N.Y. – Cortland, seeded second in the six-team NCAA Division III volleyball New York Regional, advanced to the regional championship match with a 3-1 victory over host and third-seeded Ithaca College. The Red Dragons (38-2) will face top-seeded New York University (38-5) on Saturday at 7 p.m. at Ithaca, with the winner advancing to next weekend's national quarterfinals. Both of Cortland's losses this season have come against NYU.

Cortland defeated Ithaca 30-23, 26-30, 30-25, 31-29, while NYU was a 3-0 winner over Rowan University, 30-14, 30-14, 30-11.

Sophomore Katie Brody (Apalachin/Vestal) led the Red Dragons with 15 kills and 17 digs. Senior Barbie Lang (Cuba/Cuba-Rushford) added 10 kills and six digs and senior Siobhan Loughlin (Hauppauge) had eight kills and four blocks.

Senior Jamie McMullen (Castile/Letchworth) finished with 44 assists, 10 digs, three aces and six kills. Junior Kielty Ciccone (Schenectady) added six kills and a team-high seven blocks, junior libero Danielle Turner (Farmingville/Sachem) contributed 14 kills and senior Natalie Pizzi (Pittsburgh, PA/Baldwin) recorded seven kills and five blocks.

Ithaca was led by Katie Hause's 17 kills and Julia Roth's 15 kills and 24 digs.

Cortland was held to a .145 team hitting percentage in the match, but registered 15 blocks to Ithaca's four. The Red Dragons won the first game relatively easily, then let a 24-19 lead slip away in the second game. Ithaca led for most of the first half of the third game before the Red Dragons rallied. Cortland held the lead for much of the final game, although Ithaca hung tough until the end.

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